

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12

TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 ACDA-19

OIC-04 EB-11 RSR-01 /156 W
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R 101610 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7519

INFO USNATO BRUSSELS 63

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1459

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SZ

SUBJ: CSCE: SWISS COMMENTS ON THIRD ROUND OF MULTILATERAL
PREPARATORY TALKS

REF: HELSINKI 946

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER APRIL 10,
EDOUARD BRUNNER, SWISS NEGOTIATOR AT MPT, GAVE US SWISS ASSES-
SMENT OF ROUND III WHICH AGREES LARGELY WITH US ASSESSMENT REFTEL.

2. SWISS ENCOURAGED BY RELATIVE PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN ACTUAL
DRAFTING OF MANDATES FOR SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF CSCE, AS OPPOSED
TO SET-PIECE DECLARATIONS WHICH HAD CHARACTERIZED PREVIOUS ROUNDS.
IN RETROSPECT SWISS NOW REGARD MPT II AS LARGELY A WASTE OF TIME,
TAKEN UP WITH REPETITION OF STATEMENTS MADE IN MPT I, AND THEY
DEPLORE THAT TO SAVE TIME, MORE SUBSTANTIVE WORK COULD NOT HAVE
GOTTEN UNDER WAY IN ROUND II. ON NEGATIVE SIDE SWISS SEE MPT III
AS HAVING BROUGHT INTO OPEN MARKED DIFFERENCES IN POLICY AND
TACTICS WITHIN BOTH WESTERN GROUPS, I. E., NATO AND EC NINE.
DIFFERENCES AND CRACKS IN WHAT HAD APPEARED IN EARLIER ROUNDS
TO BE REMARKABLY SOLID WESTERN FRONT, BRUNNER COMMENTED, AFFORD
SOVIETS ENHANCED OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLOIT SUCH DIFFERENCES. SUCH
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DIFFERENCES ALSO MADE IT CONSIDERABLY MORE DIFFICULT FOR SMALL
NEUTRAL LIKE SWITZERLAND TO MAINTAIN "85 PER CENT PRO- WESTERN"
POSTURE.

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HAS TWO FUNCTIONAL DEPUTIES, ONE ON GENERAL ECONOMIC ANALYSIS
AND REPORTING, ASSISTANCE AND RELATED PROGRAMS PLUS ANOTHER
ON EXPORT PROMOTIONS, TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATED PROGRAMS.
UNDER COUNSELOR DIRECTION BOTH HAVE COORDINATING FUNCTIONS
FOR SECTION AS A WHOLE. MAIN WORK OF COMMERCIAL ATTACHE JOINED
IN LATTER ROLE WITH MORE DEFINED RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLANNING
MISSION' S TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM AND FOR ANALYZING COMPETITIVE
CONDITIONS IN MARKET. HE HAS LITTLE RESPONSIBILITY F
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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